

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

Number: WIAB01-37

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CODE AMENDED

Effective January 1, 2002, Chapter 409, Statutes of 2001 (Senate Bill 40), changes sections of California's Unemployment Insurance Code. It eliminates the provision that an unemployed individual is not disqualified for eligibility for unemployment compensation benefits solely on the basis that he or she is a student. As amended, the Code will provide that an unemployed individual is not disqualified for eligibility for unemployment compensation benefits solely on the basis that he or she is only available for part-time work. Additionally, the current maximum weekly benefit of \$230 is raised to \$330 in 2002, \$370 in 2003, \$410 in 2004, and \$450 in 2005. The legislation increases the replacement rate from the current 39 percent to 50 percent by 2003. In addition, the legislation requires the Employment Development Department to conduct a study regarding eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits and an alternative base period.

These changes do not affect the operation of the Workforce Investment Act Title I-B program, Trade Adjustment Assistance, North American Free Trade Agreement-Transitional Adjustment Assistance, California Training Benefits, or Initial Assistance Workshops.

The chaptered version of Senate Bill 40 (Alarcon) may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>. You may call Phil Teeters at (916) 657-4533 for assistance if you have problems accessing the bill.

If you have any questions about this bulletin, please contact Georganne Pintar Baldwin, Local Policy Guidance Unit Manager, at (916) 654-7611.

/S/ BILL BURKE
Chief